

Claims

[c0001] 1. A method comprising:

authorizing a purchaser of a recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium; and

distributing a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with the certain works.

[c0002] 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

[c0003] 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of: computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

[c0004] 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

[c0005] 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

[c0006] 6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the identifier is

stored electronically on the recording medium.

[c0007] 7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:
determining at a processor if the identifier is valid,
wherein authorizing a purchaser further includes autho-
rizing a purchaser if the identifier is determined valid.

[c0008] 8. The method of Claim 7, wherein authorizing pur-
chasers further includes:
allowing purchasers to retrieve works from a database
and store the retrieved works onto the recording
medium using a writing device in communication with
the database.

[c0009] 9. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
receiving an identifier associated with a purchased
recording medium;
receiving purchaser information; and
registering the purchaser associated with the received
purchaser information for an award if the received iden-
tifier is a valid identifier.

[c0010] 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the registered enti-
ties include at least one of an artist, an author, or a roy-
alty organization.

[c0011] 11. The method of Claim 1, wherein the registered enti-
ties are selected from a list consisting of: an artist, an

author, and a royalty organization.

[c0012] 12. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
distributing a portion of the sale of the recording
medium to one or more charitable organizations selected
by one of users or artists/authors.

[c0013] 13. A system comprising:
a means for authorizing a purchaser of a recording
medium to make copies of certain works onto the pur-
chased recording medium; and
a means for distributing a portion of the sale of the
recording medium to registered entities associated with
the certain works.

[c0014] 14. The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording
medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digi-
tal video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards,
audio tapes, film, or paper.

[c0015] 15. The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording
medium is selected from a list consisting of: computer
disks, digital video disks, or paper.

[c0016] 16. The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording
medium includes a written authorization.

[c0017] 17. The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording

medium includes a unique identifier.

[c0018] 18. The system of Claim 17, wherein the identifier is stored electronically on the recording medium.

[c0019] 19. The system of Claim 18, further comprising:
a means for determining if the identifier is valid,
wherein the means for authorizing purchaser authorizes
purchaser if the identifier is determined valid.

[c0020] 20. The system of Claim 19, wherein the means for authorizing purchasers further includes:
a means for allowing purchasers to retrieve works from a database; and
a means for storing the retrieved works onto the recording medium using a writing device in communication with the database.

[c0021] 21. The system of Claim 13, further comprising:
a means for receiving a identifier associated with a purchased recording medium;
a means for receiving purchaser information; and
a means for registering the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an award if the received identifier is a valid identifier.

[c0022] 22. The system of Claim 13, wherein the registered entities include at least one of an artist, an author, or a ro-

alty organization.

[c0023] 23. The system of Claim 13, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list consisting of:
an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

[c0024] 24. A system comprising:

an authorizing authority configured to authorize a purchaser of a recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium and distribute a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with the certain works.

[c0025] 25. The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

[c0026] 26. The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of:
computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

[c0027] 27. The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

[c0028] 28. The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

[c0029] 29. The system of Claim 28, wherein the identifier is

stored electronically on the recording medium.

[c0030] 30. The system of Claim 29, wherein the authorizing authority comprises:

a data entry device configured to receive the identifier;
a memory configured to store approved identifier information; and

a processor in communication with the data entry device and the memory, the processor comprising:

a first component configured to determine if the identifier is one of the approved identifier based on the approved identifier information; and

a second component configured to instruct the purchaser having an approved identifier that they are authorized to make copies of works onto the blank medium.

[c0031] 31. The system of Claim 30, wherein the authorizing authority further comprises a database for storing works of the registered entities, wherein the processor further comprises a third component configured to allow purchasers having an approved identifiers to copy works stored on the database to their blank medium.

[c0032] 32. The system of Claim 31, wherein the third component includes a network accessible, web page configured to provide access to the database.

[c0033] 33. The system of Claim 24, further comprising:
a processor in communication with a network, the processor comprising:
a first component configured to receive a unique identifier associated with a purchased recording medium from a purchaser using a computer device coupled to the network;
a second component configured to receive purchaser information;
a third component configured to determine if the identifier is valid; and
a fourth component configured to register the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an award if the received identifier is determined valid.

[c0034] 34. The system of Claim 24, wherein the registered entities include at least one of an artist, an author, or a royalty organization.

[c0035] 35. The system of Claim 24, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list consisting of:
an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

[c0036] 36. A method comprising:
distributing to one or more users, in exchange for compensation, a recording medium upon which the one or more users are authorized to make copies of works ca-

pable of being copied onto the recording medium; maintaining a database of registered entities associated with certain works; and distributing a portion of the compensation for the recording medium to the registered entities associated with the certain works.

[c0037] 37. A system comprising:

a means for distributing to one or more users, in exchange for compensation, a recording medium upon which the one or more users are authorized to make copies of works capable of being copied onto the recording medium;

a means for maintaining a database of registered entities associated with certain works; and

a means for distributing a portion of the compensation for the recording medium to the registered entities associated with the certain works.